This book/images are to be used for educational purposes only.
PICTURESQUE ELGIN

William Ernest McGregor,
Carl Gerard Whitslack,
Publishers

Van Gorder & Co., Printers

The Lithotype Co., Engravers

Took & Coats, Binders
Picturesque Elgin

Michael McGreor and Wharton, publishers of this volume, have sought...busines...in the heart of the picturesque Fox River Valley, surrounded by the most beautiful of landscapes, and the most productive of fertile fields. Immediately bordering on rolling prairies, with wooded heights in the background, the City would well merit the efforts of some old master in depicting its natural beauties, to which scene the glittering glow of Fox River would add its heightening effect of color and grandeur. Not is beauty the only element possessed by these gifts of nature. That beautiful stream furnishes the motive power for many of the City's...new manufacturing establishments, from those hills and fields come the products which would make the City famous as an agricultural...made them...It is not alone, however, to its industries nor to its scenic beauty that Elgin owes its strength. The old settlers, when they first founded the then settlement that was destined to become so prominent in the affairs of our country, and especially of the middle west, built better than they knew. As if a divine blessing had been invoked when the name of the grand old Scotch hymn was adopted to distinguish this City from others, Elgin has truly been favored in ways most providential. Her outward strength of natural location and industrial establishments of world-wide renown is equalled if not surpassed, by the internal strength of her citizens. These men who showed their appreciation of nature's gifts and opportunities by settling here showed themselves to be no less great in their mental than in their business conceptions. The early settlers built on foundations of a broad moral character, and to this, the later inhabitants have added the superstructure of additional advantages and opportunities, material furnished by greater wealth and more advanced methods. Elgin's religious and mental development has ever kept pace with her industrial, until today the citizens thrill with justifiable pride of their thirty-five beautiful and hospitable churches, and their unsurpassable school system of fourteen buildings. Further is the mental character of the inhabitants shown in a well patronized Public Library and the Academy, while their love of the beautiful is displayed in the structure of the buildings, both public and private. Also does the same civic pride that displays itself in the public buildings and the elegant park system, show itself in the municipal ownership of the light, power and waterworks plant.

These, then, are the things that have caused the development of Elgin. Wisdom on the part of the founders in selecting a site at once nearly ideal from a combined standpoint of beauty, commercial and agricultural advantages; the founding of such political, moral and educational institutions as would attract the very best class of citizens; men who would and did maintain and develop these institutions and advantages along the same firm, broad basis on which they were founded.

Likewise it is this same wisdom, with a judicious admixture of conservatism, that has warded off from this City all danger of temporary, disastrous booms and built it up with a rapid and yet steady growth, adding no businesses but what would reflect credit on their location, and holding our inducements to no citizens save those who would be of the same class already settled there; men who love their town, their country, their God; men of energy and ability, and men of mental culture.

Further discussion is useless. The truth telling camera has focused its reproductive eye upon the more important scenes and buildings of our fair City, and we leave it for the reader to judge for himself whether or not words can be too extravagant in attempt at description.
Northern Illinois Hospital for the Insane
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Serge. Gehan, Lieut. J. W. Younger, City Marshal Louis Freeman, Sergt. Linkfield, D. Walker

MAIL CARRIERS

Church of the Redeemer (Episcopal)  
St. Johns German Lutheran  
1st German Baptist  
Swedish Lutheran  
St. Pauls German Evangelical
Roman Catholic Edifices
Geo. M. Peck, Dry Goods Store

Home National Bank
D. J. Chamberlin & Co., Clothing Store.

The Kelley Hotel.

The Elgin National Bank.
Panoramic View of Lord’s Park
Mr. Richardson's Residence.
West Side Residences.
Residences
Watch Factory from different points
Elgin National Watch Factory with proposed million dollar additions now in course of erection.
Employees entering Elgin National Watch Factory.—Elgin National Fire Brigade.
The Elgin Silver Plate Factory.
Butter Industries.
New York Condensed Milk Co's Factories
Cutter and Crosette Shirt Factories
Chartered 1839

The Elgin Academy

affiliated with The University of Chicago July 1, 1898

Thorough

Undenominational

Co-Educational

THREE DEPARTMENTS:

Academic,
Business,
Preparatory.

A LIVE SCHOOL
WITH
LIVE IDEALS.

Healthful Athletics a
Feature.


Instruction in Greek, Latin, French, German, History, English, Elocution, Literature, Mathematics, Science, Bookkeeping, Banking, Office Work, Penmanship, Business Arithmetic, Business Law, Shorthand, Typewriting, Letter Writing, the Common and Preparatory Branches.

Graduates of our BUSINESS COLLEGE DEPARTMENT hold the best paying positions.

A FACULTY OF THOROUGH SPECIALISTS. For Circulars and Illustrated Catalogue apply to

George Newton Sleight, Principal and Dean, Elgin, Illinois.